

ABSTRACT

An adhesion promoter comprises a polymeric strand with an epoxy-reactive group other than a phenolic hydroxyl group, and a crosslinking group that crosslinks the polymeric strand with a rubber in a crosslinking reaction, wherein the polymeric strand is water soluble in an amount of at least 10g/l, and more preferably at least 100g/l. Particularly contemplated adhesion promoters may further comprise styrene-butadiene-vinylpyridine copolymer, and may advantageously be employed as a replacement for resorcinol-formaldehyde latex in the fabrication of a rubber containing tire. Especially contemplated rubber compositions may additionally comprise maleinized polybutadiene to synergistically improve adhesion of the rubber to a polymeric fiber coupled via contemplated adhesion promoters.